

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) A method for processing a service request in a network data processing system, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a service request at a first processing unit, said first processing unit including a plurality of processing subunits, each processing subunit of said plurality processing subunits associated with each particular priority level of service of a plurality of priority levels of service, wherein said first processing unit is a proxy server;

associating a particular priority level of service with said service request;

conveying said service request to a corresponding second processing unit of a plurality of second processing units in accordance with said particular priority level of service; and

processing said service request at the corresponding second processing unit in accordance with said particular priority level of service;

wherein each processing subunit of said plurality of processing subunits is configured to receive service requests from the proxy server and is configured to send the received service requests to the corresponding second processing unit of said plurality of second processing units; and

wherein said processing subunit associated with a higher priority level of service comprises a faster response time than said processing subunit associated with a lower priority level of service.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein said first processing unit comprises a reverse proxy server.

22. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein said service request includes a request to retrieve a document and a global address in an Internet of at least one of a location of said document and said second processing unit.

23. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein said second processing unit comprises a document storage processor.
24. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein said service request comprises a request to retrieve a document from a Web page.
25. (Original) The method of Claim 18, further comprising the step of forwarding said service request from a third processing unit.
26. (Original) The method of Claim 25, wherein said third processing unit comprises a Web browser.
27. (Original) The method of Claim 25, wherein said particular priority level of service comprises at least one of a high level of priority, a medium level of priority, and a low level of priority.
28. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the step of associating said particular priority level of service with said service request comprises the step of associating said particular priority level of service with at least one of a global address of a document residing on a Web page and a global address of said second processing unit on said Web.
29. (Original) The method of Claim 28, wherein said global address comprises a URL.
30. (Canceled)